GLOSSARY

Following are working definitions of terms found throughout the Water Quality Program Plan. This section is intended to facilitate the reader's understanding of the CALFED Water Quality Program and applies only to the Water Quality Program Plan. It is not intended as a general scientific glossary of terms.

Adaptive Management - A process of modifying methods of meeting objectives through interactive decision making, and adapting future management actions according to what is learned from prior projects and studies.

Anthropogenic - Caused by human intervention or originating from human activities.

Bay Region - The Bay Region includes Suisun Bay and Marsh, San Pablo Bay, and the San Francisco Bay watershed. In addition, a zone of approximately 25 miles offshore from Point Conception to the Oregon border has been included to cover potential ocean harvest management of anadromous fish along the California coast. Certainly anadromous fish roam beyond the artificial boundary, but the purpose of the boundary is to identify the area where most anadromous fish from the Bay-Delta system occur and include the area where harvest management actions would be employed.

Beneficial Use - Refers to water uses that are included in the Water Quality Program. Specifically, these water uses are urban, agricultural, industrial, environmental, and recreational beneficial uses.

Ceriodaphnia - A fresh water cladoceran, commonly known as a water flea, which is used as a test species in toxicity bioassays.

Comprehensive Monitoring, Assessment, and Research Program (CMARP) - A program currently under development by the CALFED Bay-Delta Program to identify the monitoring, assessment, and research needed for CALFED-related projects, actions, and activities. CMARP is a critical component of the CALFED adaptive management strategy.

Delta Region - The Delta Region is defined as the statutory Delta (described in Section 12220 of the California Water Code) and is comprised roughly of lowlands (lands approximately at or below the 5-foot contour) and uplands (lands above the 5-foot contour that are served water by lowland Delta channels). The Delta Region has been carved out of the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds because of the Program's focus on this region.

Disinfection By-Products - Chemical compounds that are created during the disinfection of drinking water. Some compounds may be toxic, carcinogenic, or teratogenic.

Indicators of Success - Indicators are a means of assessing progress toward endpoints or targets that are representative of when beneficial uses are no longer impaired.

Parameter Assessment Team - A technical working sub-group of the Water Quality Technical Group representing a variety of interests. See Appendix A and the Acknowledgments for a listing of Parameter Assessment Team members.

Parameters of Concern - Substances identified by the Water Quality Program as causing, or potentially causing, water quality problems to beneficial water uses based on the input of technical experts and stakeholders. Substances may be added to or deleted from the Water Quality Program parameters of concern based on new knowledge. Once a substance becomes a parameter of concern, water quality targets are established for the parameter and actions are developed to address the water quality problems associated with the parameter.

Performance Measures - A means to gauge the progress of an action. Progress may be judged based on a variety of factors, such as reduced concentrations of a parameter. Performance measures answer the question, "Is water quality improving?".

Sacramento River Region - The Sacramento River Region is essentially bounded by the ridge tops of the Sacramento River watershed or hydrologic region. The Goose Lake watershed, in the northeast corner of California, has been left out of the study area because it rarely contributes to the flow of the Pit and Sacramento Rivers—apparently Goose Lake last spilled very briefly sometime in the 1950s and only a few times between 1869 and the present—and no actions are proposed in the watershed. Although the Trinity River is connected by a pipeline to the Sacramento River system, the Trinity River does not flow naturally into the Sacramento River watershed, and no CALFED water quality actions are proposed for the Trinity River or its watershed.

San Joaquin River Region - The San Joaquin River Region includes both the San Joaquin and Tulare Lake hydrologic basins. The Tulare Lake basin only intermittently spills over into the San Joaquin River basin during wet years or a series of wet years. However, potentially significant water quality management issues are linked to the San Joaquin River watershed and ultimately, the Bay-Delta system.

Other SWP and CVP Service Areas - The Other SWP and CVP Service Areas include small portions of Santa Cruz, San Benito, and Santa Clara Counties outside the Bay watershed, served by the CVP (San Felipe Division). The SWP service areas include most of the urbanized areas of southern California, as well as Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Alameda and Santa Clara Counties. The CVP and SWP service areas within the Central Valley are covered by Central Valley watersheds. In addition, Imperial Irrigation District is included in this region because the significant water use efficiency and transfer potential in the district could help to reduce the water supply and demand mismatch in southern California urban areas.

Targets or Water Quality Objectives - End points or compliance levels that when met indicate that beneficial uses are protected. These endpoints may be based on achievement of a variety of measurable factors, including numerical and narrative objectives for water, sediment, and tissue and lack of toxicity as indicated by toxicity testing. Indicators of success answer the question, "Have water quality goals been achieved?"

Toxicity of Unknown Origin - Refers to toxicity to native or laboratory test organisms due to unknown sources.

Water Quality Action - A programmatic action developed by the CALFED Water Quality Program to address impairments to agriculture, environment, drinking water, industrial, and recreational beneficial uses.

Water Quality Target - A numeric or narrative water, sediment, or tissue value associated with a parameter of concern. Water quality targets are based on existing water quality, sediment, and tissue objectives recognized by the scientific community and regulatory authorities. In general, targets have been established to represent a threshold below which beneficial uses of water are not impaired. The target represents the goal toward which the Water Quality Program will strive; realizing targets may not be possible to reach in all cases.

Water Quality Technical Group - A group of over 200 technical experts, agency representatives, and stakeholders representing the environment, agriculture, drinking water, industry, and recreation who participate in the development of the Water Quality Program. See Appendix A for a listing of Water Quality Technical Group members.